कोलियरीज़ कंपनी लि० (सिं.को.कं.लि.) के मामले में 16.5% होने का हिसाब लगाया गया है । 18 रू० प्रति टन की वृद्धि, जोकि दोनों कोयला कंपनियों के मामले में की गई है, वह 19-6-1993 से प्रभावी है और इससे 1.27 पै० प्रति कि० वा० घंटे की वृद्धि विद्युत का उत्पादन किए जाने में और 61 रू० प्रति टन इस्पात का उत्पादन किए जाने में वृद्धि हो जाएगी ।

(ग) और (घ) वर्ष 1991-92 के दौरान कोल इंडिया लि० ने 167.07 करोड़ रू० का लाभ कमाया है । इसके 1992-93 के लेखों को अंतिम रूप दिया जा रहा है, लेखे लेखा-परीक्षा के अधीन है ।

(ङ) जी, नहीं । कोयले की उत्पादन लागत में गिरावट नहीं आई है । को० ई० लि० के लिए (प्रति टन/रू०) वर्ष 1991-92 और 1992-93 के लिए उत्पादन लागत क्रमशः 301.67 रू० और 333.25 रू० (अनंतिम) रही है ।

(च) को० ई० लि० द्वारा वर्ष 1992-93 तक किया गया निवेश और दिनांक 31-3-93 की स्थिति के अनुसार ऋण की देय बकाया राशि नीचे दी गई है :—

(करोड़ रू० में)

	वर्ष 1992-93 तक निवेश (अनंतिम)	ऋण विदेशी ऋण	रूपये में ऋण
को० ई० लि०	15331	485.42	3947.08

वर्ष 1992-93 के दौरान कोल इंडिया लि० ने 345 करोड़ रू० की राशि सरकार को ब्याज प्रभारों के रूप में अदा की । इसमें विदेशी ऋणों पर ब्याज की राशि शामिल है, जोकि बजट के माध्यम से प्राप्त हुआ था ।

Use of Ration Cards

*273. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to dis-, courage the use of ration cards as identity cards for proof of residence and for other purposes;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal;

(c) the time by when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Passport, Police or other authorities insist on the production of ration cards as proof of residence; and

(e) if so. what steps Government propose to take in this regard if ration cards of PDS consumers of certain categories are to be discontinued ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES. CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRinUTTON (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (e) Ration cards are issued by State Governments/UT Administrations to enable consumers to draw commodities supplied through the Public Distribution System and are not intended to confer any other benefit. However, other Government agencies may require production of ration card as proof of residence. There is no proposal under consideration of Central Government either to prevent the use of ration cards for proving residence in a particular address or to deny issue of ration cards to any class or category of customers.

Agreement with China on Mining Technology

*274. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have signed/ arrived at an agreement with China to share/ seek coal mining technology during the recent visit of Coal India Ltd.'s Chairman (Shri S. K. Chowdhary) to China;

(b) whether it is a fact that China was offering its technology at a more affordable price to India as compared to U. K., France, erstwhile USSR and Poland;

(c) whether it is also a fact that C. I. L. in return for China's underground mining technology was willing to part with its relatively advanced open-cast mining technique; and

(d) The time when the Chinese team was visiting India for this purpose, and whether the Indian team's programme to that country under the leadership of C. & M. D. of the Central Mine and Planning Design Institute has been finalised, if so, when and the composition thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) to (d) During the recent UNIDO sponsored visit of Chairman, Coal India Limited to China, only preliminary discussions were held with Chinese counterparts to share/ seeking coal mining technology. To identify the specific areas of possible co-operation, a team from Coal India is presently visiting China under the leadership of Chairman and Managing Director, Central Mine Planning and

Design Institute. The composition of the team is as follows :—

(1) Chairman and Managing — leader Director Central Mine Planning and Design Institute.

(2) Director (Research and Development & Technology). Central Mine Planning & Design Institute.

(3) General Manager. Central Coalfields Ltd.

(4) General Manager (Coal Technology). Central Mine Planning & Design Institute.

(5) Addl. Chief Mining Fngineer. South Eastern Coalfields Limited.

(6) Addl. Chief Mining Engineer, North Eastern Coalfields Limited.

(7) Superintendent Geologist, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute.

A separate two-member team comprising of CMD, Singareni Collieries Company Limited alongwith Director(T) of that company has also gone to China for exploring the suitability of Chinese mining equipment for the underground mines in Singareni areas. No programme has been finalised yet for visit of the Chinese team which is expected to visit India after return of the Indian teams.

From the discussions held with the Chinese, side there are *prima facie,* indications that Chinese longwall equipment might be cheaper by 40% as compared to those from European sources.

बिहार में कार्यरत कोयला खानें

*275. **श्री अहमदेव आनंद पासवान** : क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 1976 से पूर्व बिहार में 100 से अधिक खानें चालू हालत में थी;

(ख) उनमें से कितनी खानें आजकल चालू हालत में है;

(ग) क्या काफी खानें चालू हालत में होते हुए भी बंद कर दी गई है; और

(घ) क्या इस वजह से राज्य सरकार को क्षति हो रही है और इस क्षति की पूर्ति के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार राज्य सरकार को क्या मुआवजा दे रही है ?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा) : (क) जी. हां ।

(ख) और (ग) कुल 156 खानों में से, जोकि वर्ष 1975-76 के दौरान कार्यचालन में थी, कई खानों को पुनर्गठित किया गया है और केवल 7 खानों को अभी तक विभिन्न कारणों से अर्थात् कोयला समाप्त हो जाने, अलाभकारिता, आदि के कारण बंद किया गया है । वर्ष 1993 के दौरान बिहार में कार्यचालित खानों की संख्या 165 है ।

(घ) जी, नहीं । बंद की गई खानों से हुई 0.3 मिलियन टन की सीमान्तिक क्षति की तुलना में नई खोली गई खानों से 14.63 मि० टन का अतिरिक्त उत्पादन प्राप्त कर लिया गया है । इसके परिणामस्वरूप राज्य सरकार को रायल्टी/कर, इत्यादि के रूप में अधिक राजस्व प्राप्त हुआ है ।

Non-Recovery of Worker's dues from Sick Industrial Units

*276. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI SOM PAL:

Will the Minister of LAUGUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is almost impossible for sick and non-performing units in industrial sector to shut down officially, if so. the reasons therefor:

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that due to the above situation, the dues of workers like gratuity, privilege leave and provident funds remain locked up and sick units go into liquidation and then the revival process is lengthened beyond the limit of tolerance of unemployed workers: and

(c) whether Government have undertaken any steps to retrieve the situation by way of legislative amendment in the labour laws or through administrative measures, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A SANGMA): (a) to (c) Provisions for closing down an industrial establishment are laid down in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. As per the Act an employer who intends to close down an industrial establishment shall serve a notice on the appropriate Government. The obligation to serve notice does not exist for establishments employing less than 50 workmen as well as establishments set up for construction of